



50. (NEW) An apparatus for releasing a glazing panel from a frame to which the glazing panel is bonded by interposed bonding material, the apparatus comprising:

an optical delivery head to direct light at either one of the bonding material or a frit layer on an inside face of the glazing panel about a periphery thereof and conforming to the frame; and

an array of laser diodes operable to produce the light directed by said optical delivery head in the form of at least one light pulse at a wavelength to be absorbed by either one of the frit layer or the bonding material to effect release of the glazing panel from the frame.

**REMARKS**

Claims 8, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, and 45 have been amended. New claims 48 through 50 have been added. Claims 1 through 50 remain in the application.

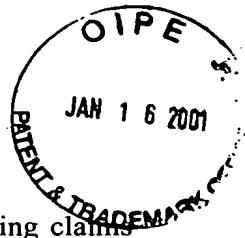
Claims 8, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, and 45 were objected to because of an informality in each of the claims.

Accordingly, claims 8, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, and 45 have been amended to correct the informality in each of the claims. It is respectfully submitted that claims 8, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, and 45, as amended, overcome the objection.

Claims 1 through 7 and 10 through 32 were provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1 through 10, 13 through 18, 21 through 25, 30 through 34, and 38 through 41 of copending Application No. 09/346,375. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

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Since the above rejection is provisional and the allegedly conflicting claims have not in fact been patented, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be held in abeyance until the indication of allowable subject matter. The claims of Application No. 09/346,375 are being amended to clarify the subject matter in regard to the claims of the present application. Applicants have added new independent claims 48 through 50 that more particularly claim the "light pulse" by either an electric gas discharge tube or array of laser diodes of the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 48 through 50 are allowable, which allowance is solicited.

Claims 1 through 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by WO(I) (96/17737). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

WO 96/17737 to Ledger et al. has a priority date of GB 9424659 filed on December 7, 1994 and is a PCT Application No. PCT/GB95/02847 with a filing date of December 6, 1995 in which the United States (US) was a designated state. This PCT application entered the national phase in the US as Serial No. 08/693,060, filed August 13, 1996. In the U.S., a continuation application was filed from this application as U.S. Serial No. 09/133,854, filed August 14, 1998.

The present application claims the benefit of 35 U.S.C. § 120 of prior U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/133,854 and 08/693,060. Applicants have amended the Specification to contain a specific reference to Serial No. 09/133,854, which is still pending, and Serial No. 08/693,060. The present application and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/133,854 are owned by the same assignee.

35 U.S.C. § 120 provides that an application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by the first paragraph of section 112 of this title in an

application previously filed in the United States, or as provided by section 363 of this title, which is filed by an inventor or inventors named in the previously filed application shall have the same effect, as to such invention, as though filed on the date of the prior application, if filed before the patenting or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application or on an application similarly entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the first application and if it contains or is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application.

As a result, the claims of the present application cannot be anticipated by WO 96/17737. WO 96/17737 has the same disclosure as copending application Serial No. 09/133,854, which Applicants claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 from Serial No. 08/693,060, which is the national stage filing of WO 96/17737. The present application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of Serial No. 09/133,854. The present application has been amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed applications. As such, WO 96/17737 cannot be an anticipatory reference. The rejection is therefore improper and should be withdrawn. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 through 47 are allowable over the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a).

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in a condition for allowance, which allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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